

# Meteorological Factors Limit *Aedes aegypti* Longevity and Dengue Virus Transmission in the Sonoran Desert



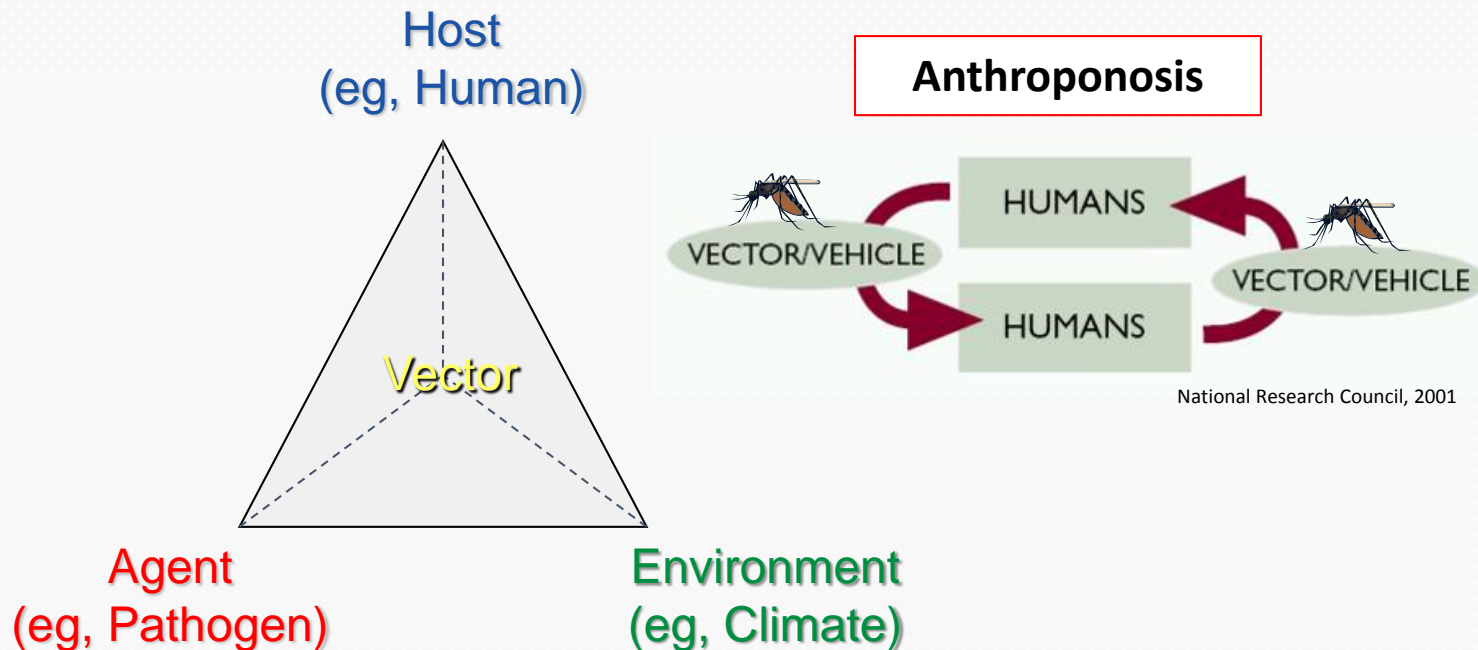
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# Vector-borne Disease Ecology

*A multi-factorial relationship between hosts, agents, vectors and environment*



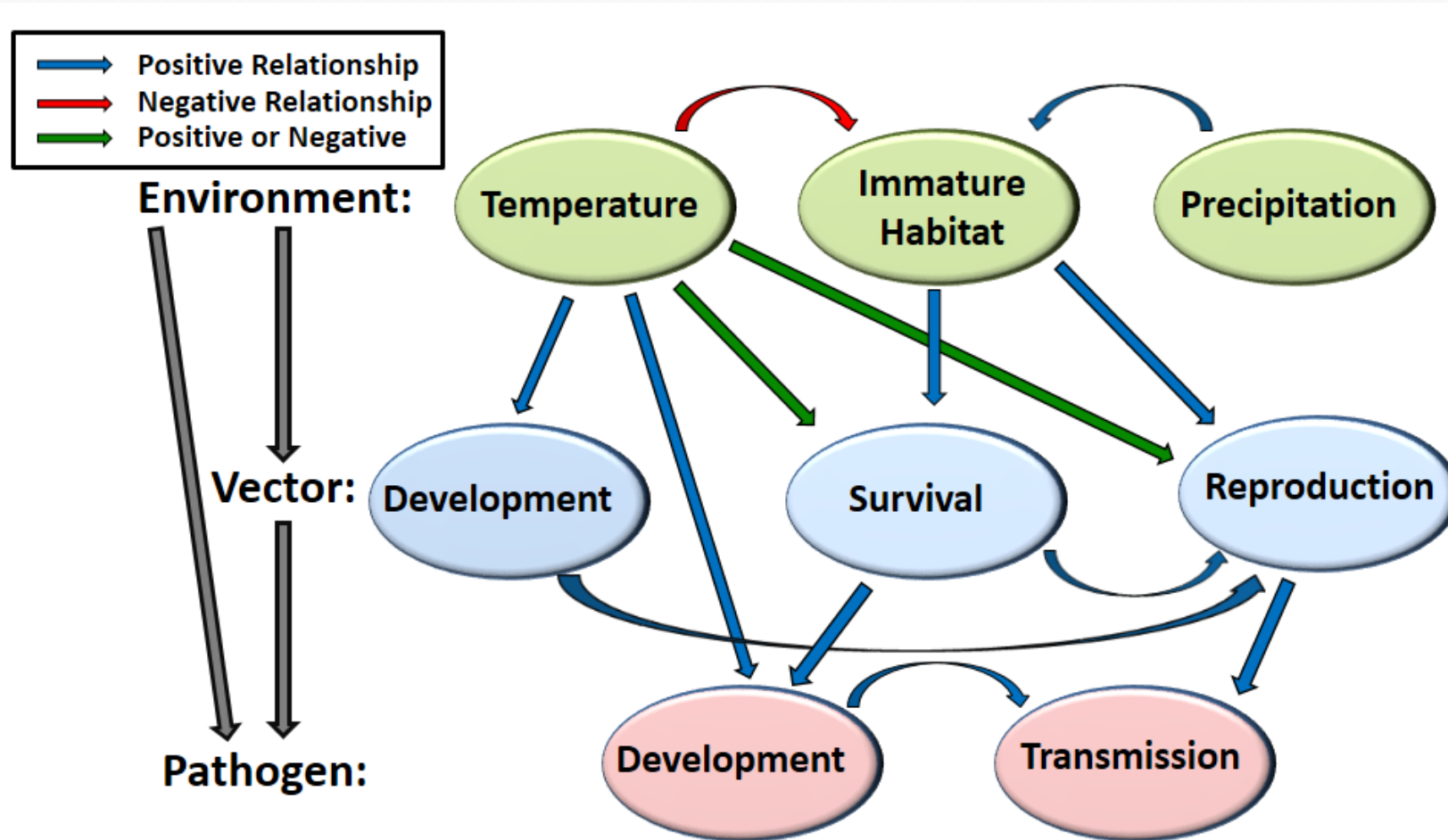
## Dengue Viruses

- Annually ~ 96 million cases of symptomatic disease (WHO)
- Endogenous transmission in Texas and Florida
- Symptoms: muscle and bone ache, fever, and hemorrhagic manifestations in rare cases

## Chikungunya Virus

- In 2013 first locally acquired cases reported in the Americas
- Symptoms include fever, joint pain, headaches, and rash

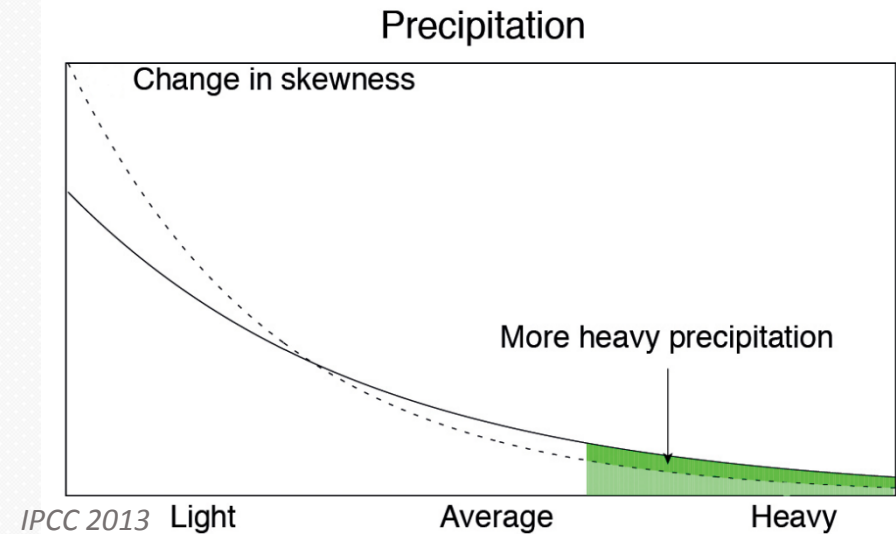
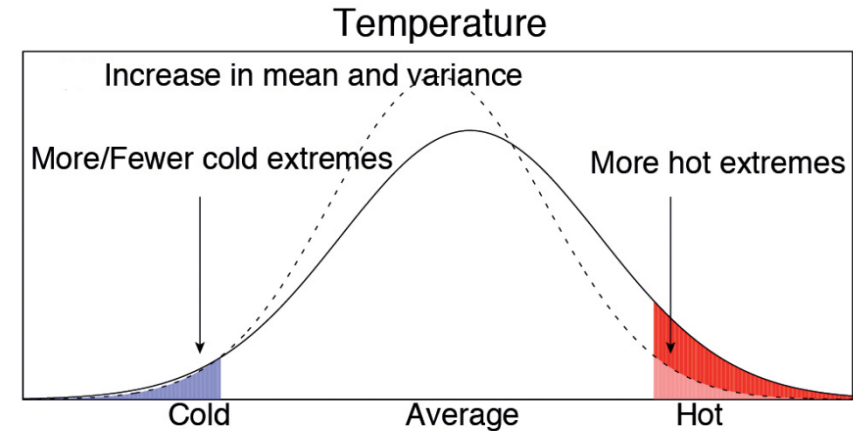
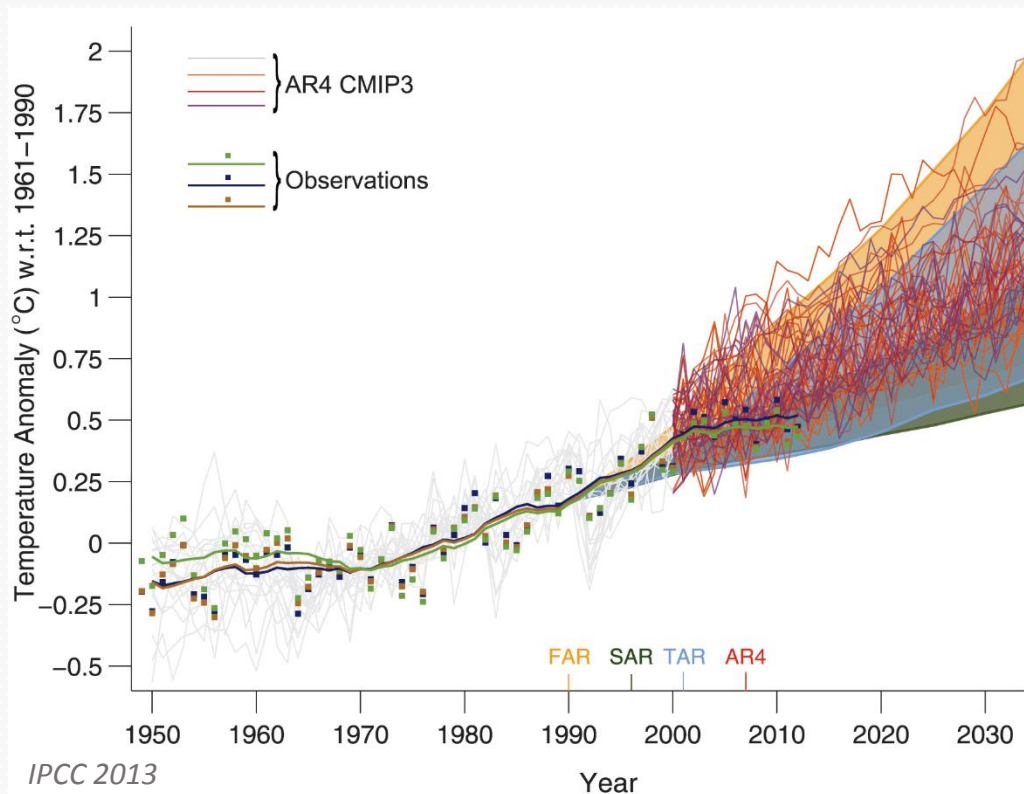
# Weather/Climate Influences on Vector-borne Disease Ecology



Morin et al. 2013

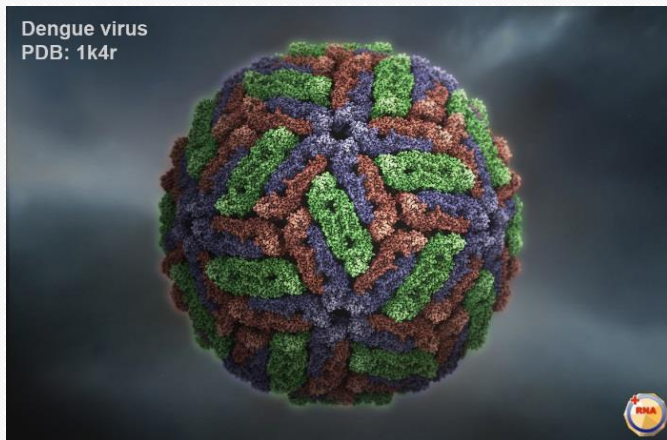
# Climate Variability and Change

- Shift in mean and variance
- Increase in frequency of extreme conditions





# Challenges in Weather/Climate and Health Research (Vector-borne Diseases)



- Knowledge gaps
  - Vector population dynamics
  - **Extrinsic Incubation Period (EIP)**
  - Transmission probabilities
  - Evolution and adaption of virus and human immunity
- Reporting problems
  - Misdiagnosis
  - Subclinical cases
  - Reporting errors/bias
  - Availability of data



- Climate data
  - Availability/Reliability
  - Resolution
  - Predictability
- Human vs. climate influences
  - Socioeconomic status
  - Microclimatic influences
  - Human adaptations to climate

CDC.gov

# Investigating Dengue Transmission in Sonora, Mexico

- Sonora, Mexico
  - Arid climate, monsoon precipitation
  - Seasonal/annual cycles of dengue transmission
  - Large variations in case loads between the northern and southern regions
  - Inhabited by *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes
    - Anthropophilic, dengue vector
- Why is dengue transmission common in Hermosillo while there is little/no transmission in nearby Nogales?
- Hypothesis: Cooler temperatures in Nogales
  - Suppression of mosquito population
  - Extension of extrinsic incubation period (EIP)



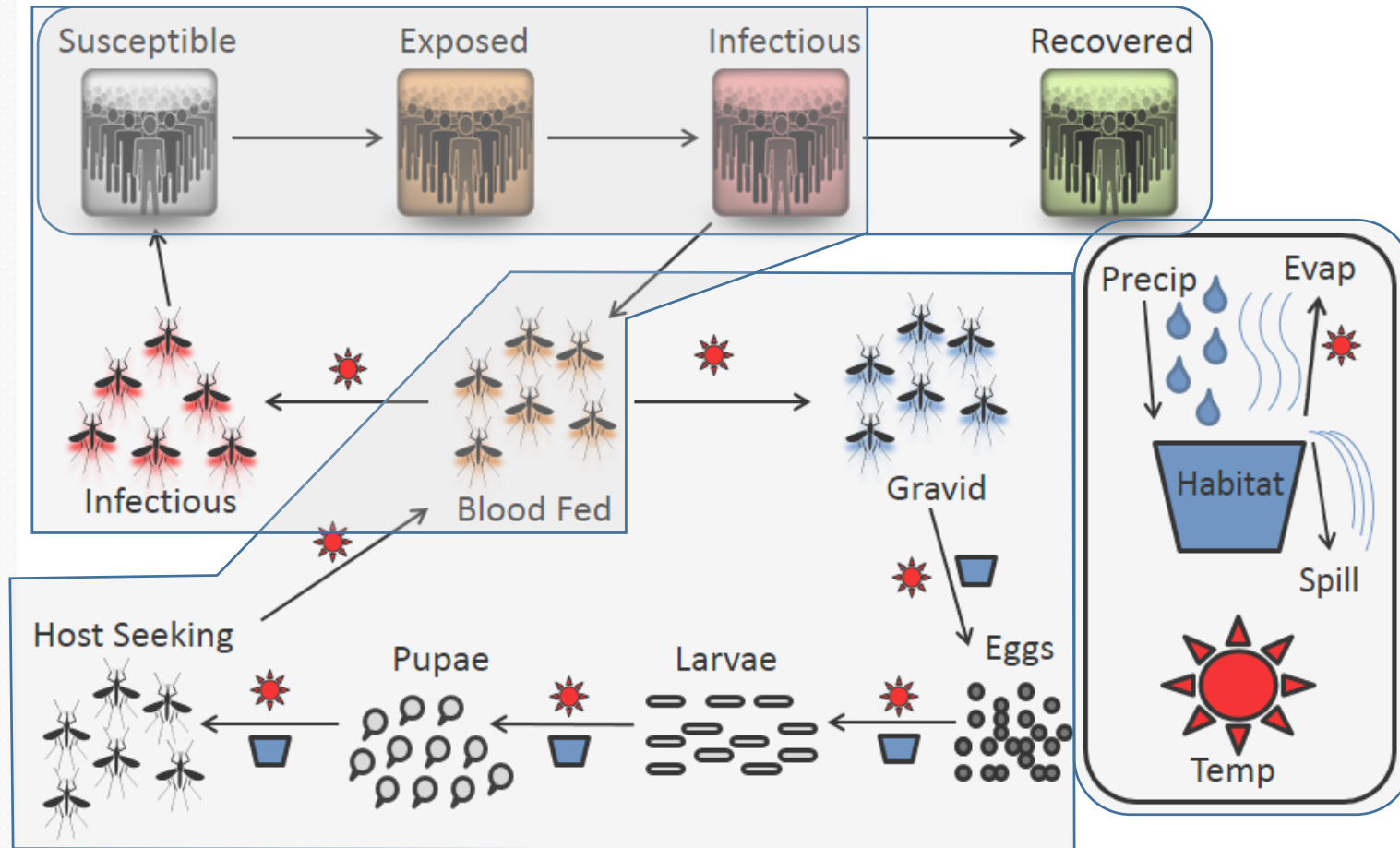


# Data and Methods

- Meteorological/Dengue case data
  - Daily maximum and minimum temperatures (NLDAS)
  - Daily precipitation (TRMM, NLDAS)
  - Weekly suspected dengue cases for Hermosillo, MX 2006-2011
- Dynamic Mosquito Simulation Model (DyMSiM)
  - Simulates *Aedes aegypti* population and dengue virus transmission dynamics
  - Run from 2006-2011 (500 simulations)
  - Parameterization performed using suspected dengue case data
- Experiments
  - Control: Performed simulations for Hermosillo and evaluated with reported case data
  - 1: Rerun simulations using Nogales meteorological data
  - 2: Rerun experiment 1 with 1°C warming



# Modeling *Aedes aegypti* and Dengue Virus Ecology





# Model Parameter Estimation

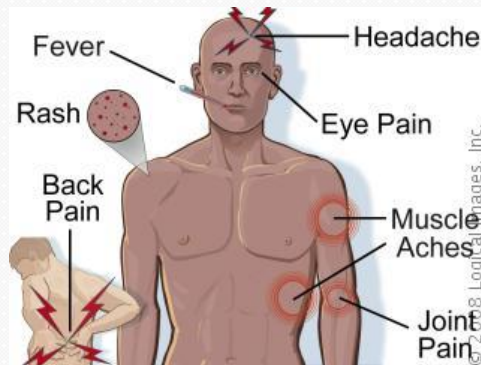
- Containers

- Based on household surveys
- Human managed and open containers
- Used mean values and +/- 25% and 50%



Mosquitoeater.com

beingalison.com



- Minimum infectious rate

- Minimum amount of infectious humans
- Maintains virus within the population
- Based on case data and previous study in San Juan, PR

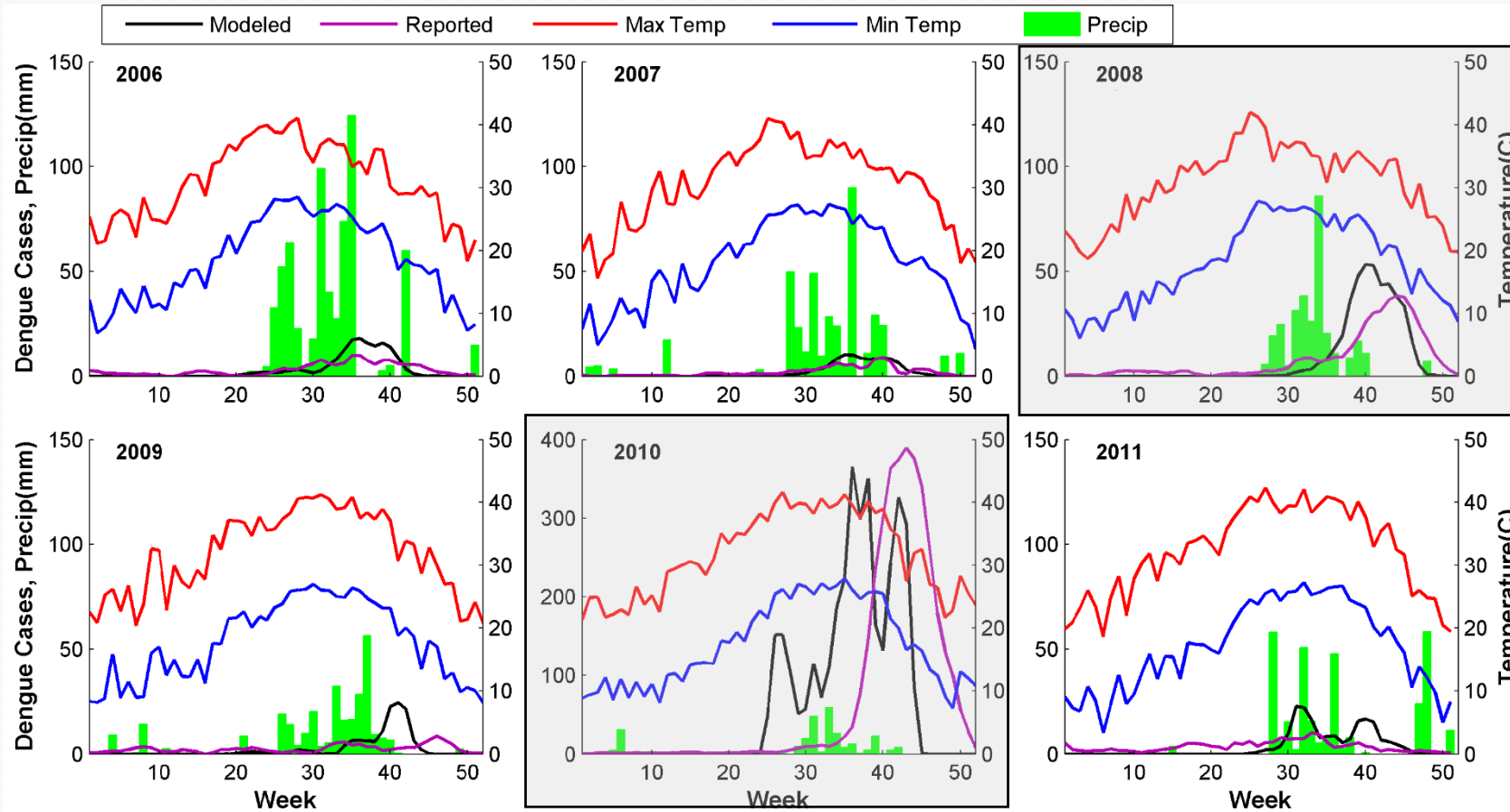
- Maximum larval density

- Used to calculate density-dependent mortality
- Based on observations, literature, and previous study in San Juan, PR



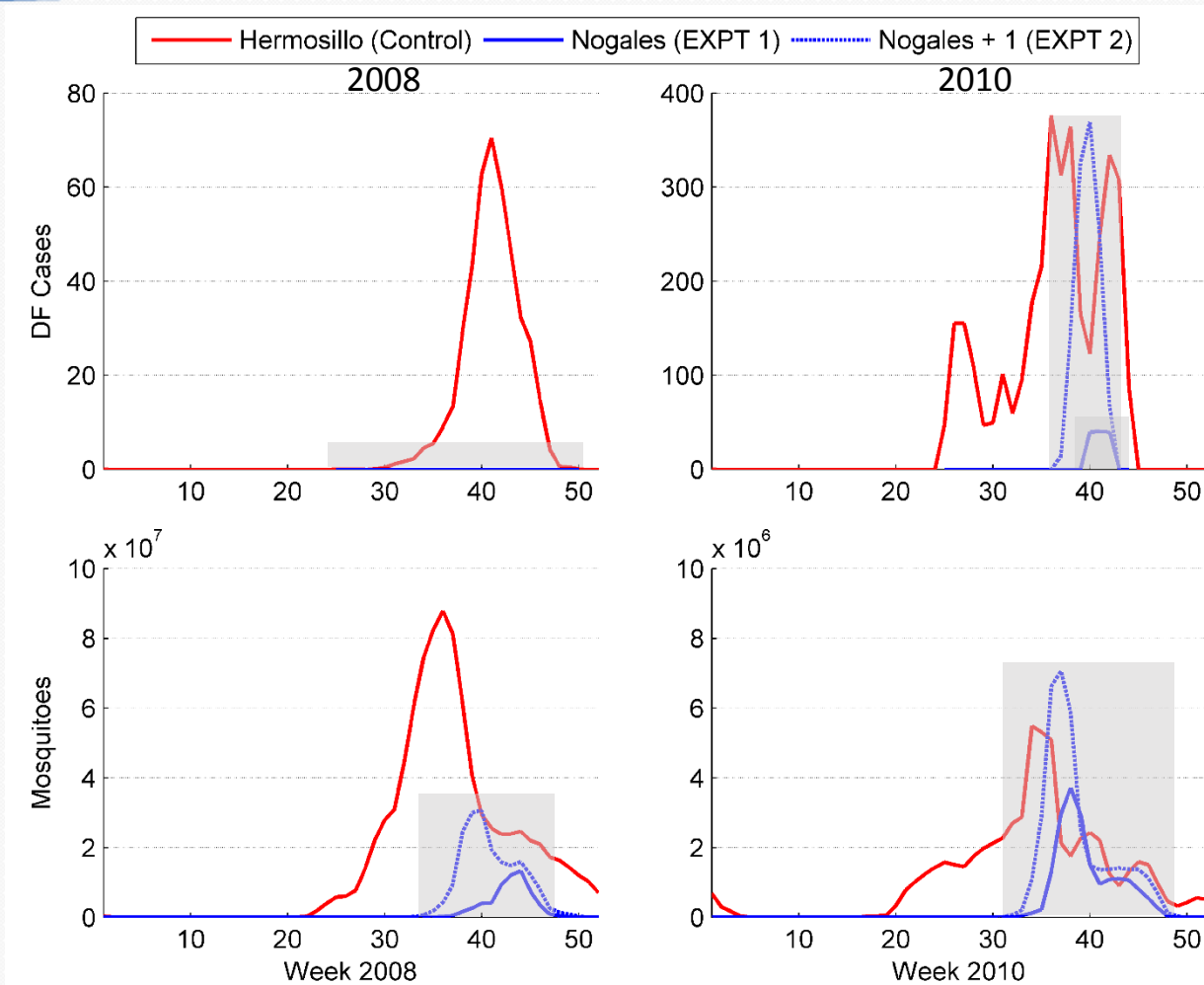
answers.yahoo.com

# Control: Simulating Dengue Cases in Hermosillo



- 2008 and 2010 are largest dengue years
  - Use for Nogales comparison simulations
- Generally epidemics follow monsoon rains
- Precipitation magnitude has little influence on dengue magnitude
- Introduction from nearby areas is likely important

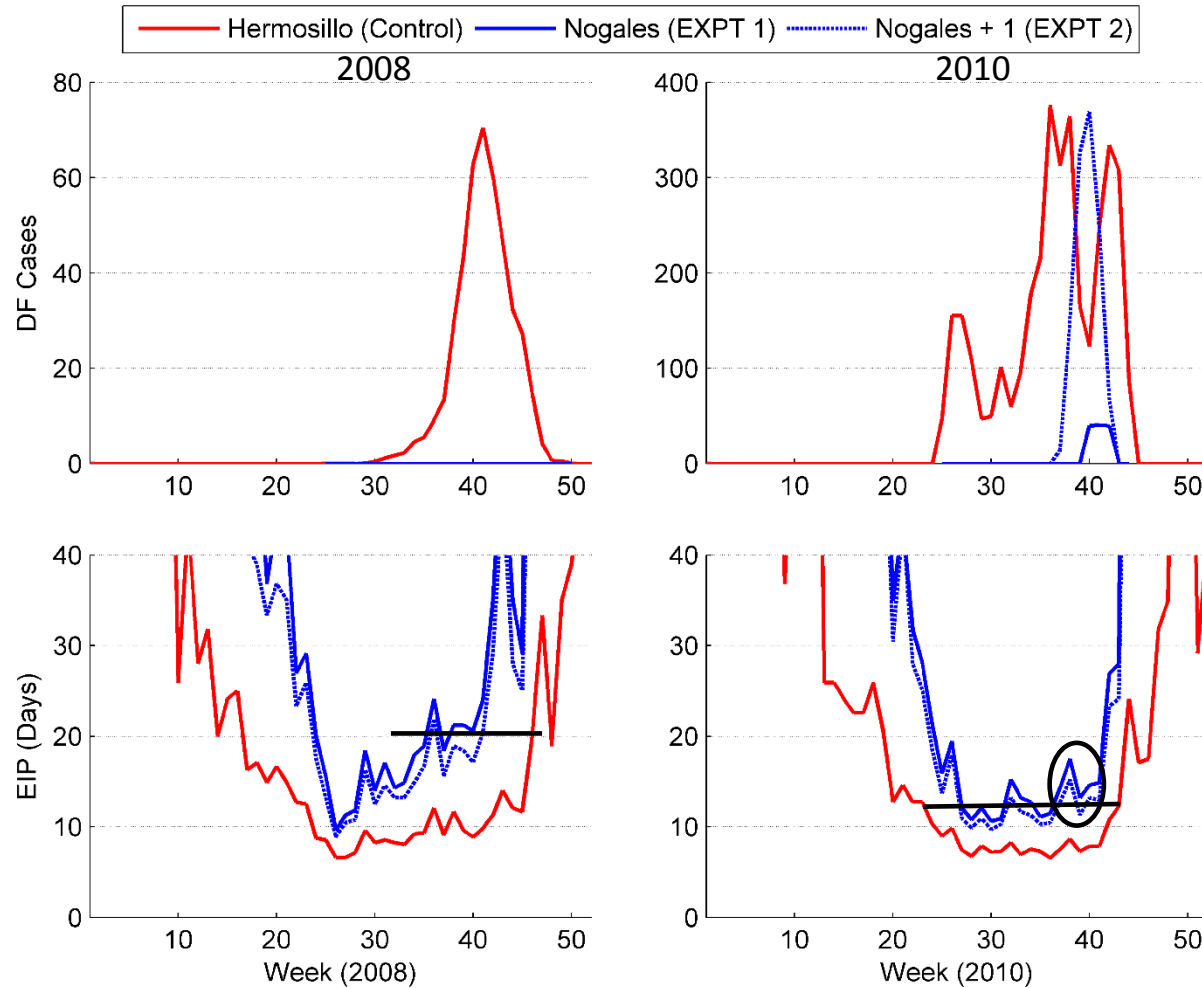
# Experiments: Dengue Cases and Mosquitoes



- Little/no dengue is simulated under Nogales meteorological conditions
- With warming, there is a modest mosquito population increase in 2008
  - No dengue
- Warming increases the mosquito considerably population in 2010
  - Results in increased virus transmission



# Experiments: Dengue Cases and EIP



- EIP is considerably longer under Nogales conditions
- Under Nogales conditions, the EIP is longer during the transmission season in 2008 compared to 2010
  - Prevents completion of EIP during mosquito lifetime
- EIP shortened under 1°C warming conditions
  - Small change produces dramatic shift in dengue fever cases

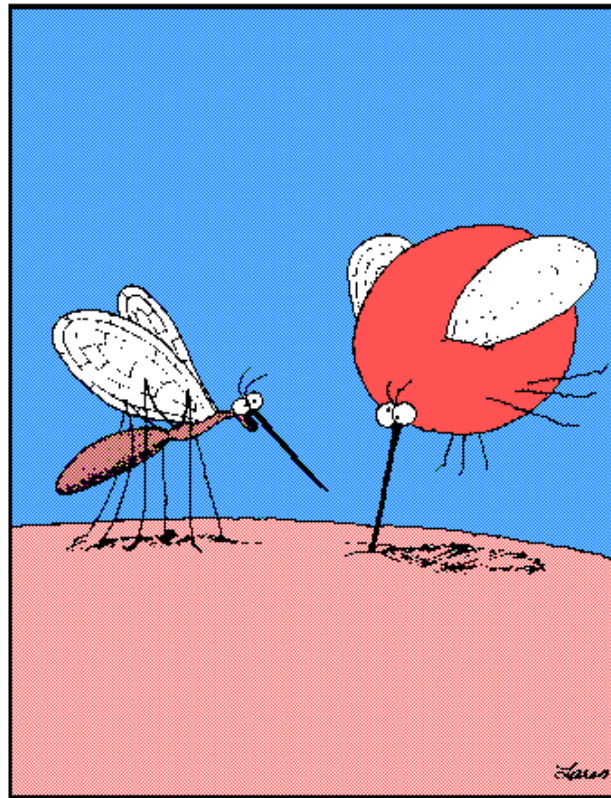
# Conclusions

- Climate is an important regulator of dengue transmission in Sonora, MX
  - Precipitation influences the timing but not magnitude of dengue epidemics
  - Temperature influences mosquito population dynamics and the virus EIP
    - Small changes in temperature can have significant impacts on transmission
  - Year to year climate variability is important especially along fringe regions
    - Difference in dengue transmission suitability in Nogales between 2008 and 2010
- Dengue transmission dynamics in northern Mexico may affect dengue risk in the United States
  - Travel, climate change
  - Recent dengue epidemic in Nogales



# Thank You for Your Attention!

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"Pull out, Betty! Pull out! ... You've  
hit an artery!"